IN THE MATTER OF the *Public Health Act*, RSPEI 1988, c P-30.1 (herein referred to as the "Act"), sections 39, 49 and 56.

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

TO: All persons residing in or present in the Province of Prince Edward Island; and

All businesses and organizations operating or carrying on business in Prince Edward Island;

WHEREAS a state of public health emergency was declared in the province on March 16th, 2020 pursuant to Order in Council EC2020-174;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 39(2) of the *Public Health Act*, the Chief Public Health Officer believes on reasonable and probable grounds that as a result of COVID-19:

(a) a communicable disease exists in the province;
(b) the communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons in the province; and
(c) the requirements specified in the order are necessary to prevent, decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by the communicable disease.

AND WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 39(1) of the *Public Health Act,* the Chief Public Health Officer may require a person to take or refrain from taking any action that is specified in the order in respect of a communicable disease;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 49(3) of the *Public Health Act*, the Chief Public Health Officer reasonably believes that the population is not protected against COVID-19, and certain preventative measures are necessary to protect the population;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to section 56 of the *Public Health Act*, the Chief Public Health Officer may require any person to provide information that the Chief Public Health Officer reasonably considers necessary to:

(a) assess the threat that a disease presents to public health and plan for and address the threat; or
(b) evaluate and monitor the health and safety of the general public;

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to my authority under subsections 39(1), 49(3) and 56 of the *Act*, the following order is made:

1. For the purposes of this Order, the following definitions apply:

1.1 "Self-isolate" means adhering to the following restrictions:

a. Except to seek medical care or due to extraordinary circumstances such as reasons of personal safety, remain in your residence or residence grounds, or if you live in an apartment building, remain on the building's property and keep a two-metre distance from other persons at all times while in corridors, stairwells, elevators, other shared spaces and outdoors; and

b. If you must leave your property for a reason outlined in clause 1.1(a) above, keep a two-metre distance from others at all times, other than during treatment by a health care worker.

1.2 "Close contact" means:

a. A person who provides care, lives with, or has close physical contact with a person who is confirmed as having COVID-19; or

b. A person who comes into direct contact with the infectious body fluids of a person who is confirmed as having COVID-19.

A "close contact" does not include a person who consistently and appropriately uses personal protective equipment while caring for a person who is confirmed as having COVID-19.

2 Subject to the exemptions at clauses 3 and 4, persons residing in or present in the Province of Prince Edward Island who fall under one of the categories below shall self-isolate for the period of time specified:

2.1 Persons identified as a close contact of a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, shall self-isolate for a period of 14 days from the first day of close contact, regardless of whether a negative test result for COVID-19 is received during that period.

2.2 Persons diagnosed with COVID-19 shall self-isolate for a period of at least 14 days after the onset of symptoms and until cleared by a public health official.

2.3 Persons who are symptomatic and awaiting the results of a test for COVID-19 shall self-isolate for a period of 14 days from the day of testing, regardless of whether a negative test result for COVID-19 is received during that period.

2.4 Persons who have travelled outside of Canada on or after March 8, 2020 shall self-isolate for 14 days from the date of their return to Canada or for the duration of their stay in the province (if shorter than 14 days), regardless of whether a negative test result for COVID-19 is received during that period.

2.5 Persons entering the province as of March 21, 2020, shall self-isolate for 14 days or for the duration of their stay in the province (if shorter than 14 days), regardless of whether a negative test result for COVID-19 is

received during that period.

3 Health care workers are subject to the following requirements to self-isolate:

3.1 If diagnosed with COVID-19, health care workers shall self-isolate until they receive two negative test results (24 hours apart) and are cleared by a public health official.

3.2 If symptomatic and awaiting the results of a test for COVID-19, health care workers shall self-isolate until a negative test result is received.

4 The following persons are exempt from the requirement to self-isolate established in clause 2.5, however, they shall self-isolate for the duration of their stay in the province, other than when they are performing work duties:

4.1 Asymptomatic workers engaged in providing services in the trade, transportation, construction, agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and livestock sectors including truck drivers and crew on any plane, helicopter or marine vessels arriving in Prince Edward Island from another province or territory in Canada.

4.2 Asymptomatic workers essential to the critical maintenance of the province's infrastructure in the trade, transportation and healthcare sectors.

4.3 Asymptomatic workers engaged in providing essential services to PEI, including but not limited to, health and social service providers, postal service workers, members of a police service and others employed for the preservation of the peace and emergency responders, except those workers who have travelled internationally since March 8, 2020 and have not yet completed 14 days of self-isolation upon return.

4.4 Persons travelling for emergency medical purposes, including patients and persons necessary to travel with patients, and persons accompanying animals for emergency services at the Atlantic Veterinary College.

4.5 Such other persons as may be otherwise exempted under exceptional circumstances by the Chief Public Health Officer.

5 For the purposes of this Order:

5.1 "Essential Services" means services that, if interrupted, would endanger the life, health or personal safety of the whole or part of the population. For greater certainty, food supplies, health, financial support and utilities are essential services.

5.2 "Non-Essential Services" means services that, if interrupted, would not impact life, health or personal safety of the whole or part of the population.

For examples of services that fall into the above categories, please see: https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/essential-and-non-essential-services-covid-19.

6 Effective March 17, 2020, Non-Essential Services shall not offer or provide services to the public at a location that is accessible to the public. Non-Essential Services include, but are not limited to, the following categories:

- Organized outdoor and indoor events (festivals, sporting, concerts, etc)
- Recreational facilities/indoors (arenas, pools/wellness recreational centres, youth centres, gyms and fitness facilities, yoga and pilates studios, bowling alleys, etc.)
- Casinos, horse-racing, Bingos, Chase the Ace and other community fundraising activities
- Malls and retail stores (with the exception of those business identified as Essential Services)
- Community centres
- Libraries
- Tour Operators
- Bottle Depots
- Museums and art galleries
- Bars and clubs
- Theatres and movie theatres
- Restaurant dining rooms and buffet style service
- Personal service establishments (barber, hair salons, massage, nail and other salons, spas, tattoo and piercing studios)
- Regulated health professionals, unless the services to be provided are to address essential health care or an emergency health care situation. Virtual care for non-emergency/elective care services is permitted, if professionals are authorized to provide this care within their scope of practice and as established by their governing college
- Unregulated health services providers, with the exception of those that are providing direct support to regulated health services providers in essential health care or an emergency health care situation

Non-Essential Services may continue serving the public by means of phone, virtual services, delivery or pick-up, provided that the preventative measures outlined in clause 8 below are followed.

7 No business may operate a Video Lottery Terminal (VLT). Community fundraising lotteries are only permitted to operate virtually.

8 Business owners and managers of workplaces which are permitted to continue serving the public under this Order, shall take the following preventative measures:

8.1 take every reasonable step to ensure minimal interaction of people within two metres of each other; and

8.2 take every reasonable step required to prevent employees from entering workplaces who are required to self-isolate as provided in clause 2.

9 All child care facilities, including licensed and unlicensed centres, are closed to the public effective March 17, 2020, except for those licensed centres approved by the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning to offer child care services to essential service workers in accordance with the "Conditions for Re-opening Selected Licensed Child Care Centres".

10 Gatherings of more than 5 people are prohibited. For greater clarity, this prohibition does not apply to facilities where health care or social services are provided; businesses or workplaces that are permitted to be open under this Order; or groups of persons living in the same dwelling.

11 Visitation to nursing homes and community care facilities is prohibited, unless for exceptional circumstances including end of life.

12 Every person entering the province at any point of entry shall take the following actions:

12.1 stop at designated stations;

12.2 answer the screening questions of a public health official or health practitioner, including name, license plate number, contact information, travel details, reason for entering the province, occupation and symptom information;

12.3 advise public health officials of their self-isolation plan;

12.4 declare if they are experiencing symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, or fever; and,

12.5 submit to temperature screenings, if requested.

THIS ORDER is effective March 31, 2020 and is in effect for a period of 30 days, unless it is sooner terminated or continued by the Chief Public Health Officer.

TAKE NOTICE THAT failure to comply with this Order is an offence for which you may be liable on summary conviction in accordance with section 66 of the *Public Health Act*.

DATED at Charlottetown in Queens County, Province of Prince Edward Island this 31st day of March, 2020.

Dr. Heather Morrison
Chief Public Health Officer